

**PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF NONRACEMIC *SYN*-1-(4-HYDROXY-PHENYL)-2-(4-HYDROXY-4-PHENYL-PIPERIDIN-1-YL)-1-PROPANOL COMPOUNDS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention provides a process for the preparation of a nonracemic diastereomer of 1-(4-benzoxo-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-1-propanol by hydrogenation of a corresponding nonracemic 1-(4-benzoxo-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl)-1-propanone using a catalyst system comprising ruthenium, a nonracemic diphosphine ligand, a bidentate amine ligand selected from amino-thioethers and achiral diamines, and a base.

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